Gmail Eric Newman <ericnumis106@gmail.com>

Fwd: Research Inquiry

1 message

Tom Serfass [redacted] Thu, Dec 27, 2012 at 1:36 PM
To: ericnumis@aol.com

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Tom Gesner** [redacted]
Date: Thu, Dec 20, 2012 at 3:25 PM
Subject: Research Inquiry
To: [redacted]

Dear Mr. Surfass,

Thank you very much for responding to my inquiry yesterday. Below is the nature of my request.

I am researching the pedigrees of all the known 1787 Massachusetts Transposed Arrows Cent, Ryder 2a-F. The current population is about 15 specimens. These coins can be difficult to follow as they tend to reside in collections for decades before re-appearing at auction or privately passing from collector to collector.

In the course of my research I have found several references to an example which at one time was owned by Mr. Eric Newman. They are: 1) The Whitman Encyclopedia of Colonial and Early American Coins By Q. David Bowers, on p205, which in citing known examples, states "The Newcomer coin, now in the Eric P. Newman collection, has traces of mint red." 2) In the Stack's John J. Ford Sale V, 12 Oct 2004, lot 85 description (Ford's 2a-F), an example one owned by "Newman" is mentioned. 3) Similarly, in the description for another 2a-F in Stacks Autumn Sale, Lot 301, 7 Sept 2005, mention of "the Newman coin" can be found.

The Bowers description of "traces of mint red" suggests, this could be an important coin. The condition consensus contains many not so pretty specimens. I would like very much to learn more about the coin.

I am writing to ascertain any information concerning this coin. Such information includes (but not limited to):

1. Verify an example of the Massachusetts 2a-F is in the Newman Money Museum holdings. (I could not find an online catalogue of the museum's holdings.)

2. How, when and where did Mr. Newman acquire the 2a-F? Perhaps, the Waldo C. Newcomer Collection, Jacques Schulman sale 191, 26 March 1935? (I have not located a copy of this auction catalogue, but hope to.)

3. Prior owners of the example owned by Mr. Newman? Purchased dates, prices and venues (auctions, private treaty?)

4. An image of the coin would be very desirable, especially if this an AU or MS example, but not essential to my research for now. However, pictures are very helpful in tracking and corroborating a coin's appearance in auction catalogues.

The Massachusetts Transposed Arrows variety is the most enigmatic variety in the Massachusetts copper colonial series of cents and half cents. I hope to publish my findings at som[redacted]

[Quoted text hidden]

Tom Gesner [redacted] Thu, Jan 24, 2013 at 8:51 PM
Reply-To: Tom Gesner [redacted]
To: "EricNumis@aol.com" <EricNumis@aol.com>

Dear Mr. Newman,

Thank you very much for the favor of your response to my query concerning your coin! I was very pleased to hear from you.

My apologies for not getting back to you sooner. I have been away dealing with family matters on the East Coast for the past two weeks. I had hoped to travel to the ANS library on my only free day, but was cancelled by inclement weather. The ANS has many plated examples of the 2a-F in its catalogue collection. Additionally they have a 2a-F which I had hoped to examine. I expect when I return to the Northeast this summer to spend a day at the ANS library.

I am attempting to identify the extent population of 2a-F's and their history. The 2a-F's have graced the holdings of many important collections. I'm glad to know your example came from the E.H.R. Green collection. I suspect it may have come from the Waldo Newcomer collection also. At the ANS, Max Mehl's records of the distribution of Newcomer's coins to Garrett and Green exist. As Garrett had a 2a-F also, I hope there may be a notation to whom Newcomer's example went to. Of course, it could passed hands through auction. Again, the ANS has the Newcomer sale catalogue. I *really* was disappointed not making it to NYC.

As you locate further information about the Green-Newman 2a-F, I'd appreciate hearing from you. Please let me know if you would rather communicate by phone or otherwise.

Best Regards,

Tom Gesner

From: EricNumis@aol.com
Date: January 1, 2013, 1:33:16 PM CST
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: 1787 Mass transposed arrows

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